

In the claims:

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration~~ An aeration system for  
5 aeration and/or mixing of water, comprising: which comprises  
at least one aeration unit (20) having a pump/propeller (13)  
inside a feed pipe, with which propeller/pump the water is  
sucked into the a feed pipe (14), and a the feed pipe (14) to  
10 which the water to be aerated is sucked from beneath;  
and a nozzle ring (15, 38) in the aeration unit (20), and  
which feed pipe (14) expands in the an upper part of the  
aeration unit (20) by forming a conical space that works as a  
nozzle (17), the nozzle ring having at least one nozzle  
15 opening defined therein, the nozzle ending in which ends to at  
least one annular nozzle opening; (18), characterized  
in that  
the aeration unit (20) is being placed in the water to a the  
right depth (22, 23) in such a way that the water flow caused  
20 by the a pump/propeller (13) goes to one or more of the  
annular nozzle openings (18) at or close to the a surface of  
the water.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1  
25 wherein the nozzle opening (18) is vertical in order to bring  
the water jet horizontally out from the feed pipe (14).
3. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1  
30 wherein the nozzle opening (18) slants diagonally upwards in  
order to bring the water jet diagonally upwards out from the  
feed pipe (14).
4. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1  
35 wherein the nozzle opening (18) slants diagonally downwards in  
order to bring the water jet diagonally downwards out from the  
feed pipe (14).

wherein the conical space in the upper part of the aeration unit (29) is between the nozzle rings (15, 38).

5 5. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein there is another smaller propeller (40) in the upper part of the system, which other propeller is different handed compared to the propeller (13) of the propeller pump.

10 6. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein there is cylindrical covering (41) around the aeration unit (20).

15 7. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein a wedge-formed nozzle (17) is formed between the nozzle rings (15), which nozzle (17) ends to the annular nozzle opening (18).

20 8. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein the nozzle ring (15) of the aeration unit (20) is formed by a cover (38), which is externally fastened and the oxidation  
25 and/or mixing can be regulated by adjusting ~~the~~ a position of the cover (38).

30 9. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein the nozzle (17) is divided into several nozzle openings by means of wedge-formed nozzle rings (15).

35 10. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein the conical space in the upper part of the aeration

unit (20) has been achieved by cutting around the feed pipe, whereby the cutting results in a nozzle (17) and a nozzle opening (18).

5 11. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 10, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 10 wherein the upper part and the lower part of the cutting of the feed pipe is of same piece and fastened to each other by fasteners left in the pipe.

10

12. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein there are several aeration units (20) and a transversal feed pipe or transversal feed pipes (28), along  
15 which the water is lead to the aeration units.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 11, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 11 wherein one feed pipe (14), pump (13) and motor (11) feed the  
20 water to several aeration units (20) simultaneously.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 11, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 11 wherein a part of the aeration units (20) ~~can be~~ are shut by  
25 lowering the cover (38) and by lowering the pumping power at the same time by decreasing the rotation speed of the motor (11).

15. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1 and 11, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim 1 wherein the transversal suction pipe (26) near the bottom and the suction holes (33) therein intensifies the mixing.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Aeration system of claim 1 and 11, characterized in that~~ The aeration system of claim  
35

1 wherein by changing the rotation direction of the propeller  
(13) and by keeping the aeration units (20) under the water,  
the circulation and mixing of the water ~~can be~~ is intensified  
and the apparatus ~~can be~~ is cleaned.

5

17. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for aeration/mixing  
of water in an aeration unit (20), comprising:

10 ~~which comprises~~ providing a propeller/pump (13) inside a feed  
pipe, with which propeller/pump (13) the water is sucked into  
the feed pipe (14) and a feed pipe (14), to which the water is  
sucked from beneath and a nozzle ring (15, 30) of the aeration  
unit,

~~characterized in that~~

15 a) achieving a water stream ~~achieved~~ with the propeller pump  
(13) ~~is~~ leading the water stream to the feed pipe (14) of the  
aeration unit (20), which is in the water,

b) leading the water ~~is lead~~ from the feed pipe via such a  
part in the upper part of the feed pipe that works as a nozzle  
(17) and ~~extends~~ extending as a conical space and is lead  
20 further to one or more annular nozzle openings (18) ending to  
the nozzle (17) at or near by the a surface of the water, and  
e) leading the water (16) ~~is lead~~ away via the a nozzle  
opening (18) in the a form of a water jet.

25 18. (Currently amended) ~~Method of claim 17, character-~~  
~~ized in that~~ The method according to claim 17 wherein  
when there is another smaller propeller (40) in ~~the~~ an upper  
end of the system that is different handed compared to the  
propeller (13) of the propeller pump, a pre-aeration is  
30 performed as a first step, wherein water is pushed by the  
propeller (40) downwardly and air is mixed with the water it,  
and the water is removed from the aerator via the nozzle (17)  
in the form of a the water jet.

19. (Currently amended) ~~Method of claim 17 or 18, characterized in that~~ The method according to claim 17  
5 wherein when there is a cylindrical covering (41) around the  
aeration unit, the water jet from the nozzle (17) is, in a ~~the~~  
third step of the aeration, allowed to collide with the  
cylindrical covering (41) working as a wall in order to split  
the water jet into small water droplets and air bubbles.

20. (Currently amended) ~~Method of any of claims 17 - 19, characterized in that~~ The method according to claim  
10 17 wherein the apparatus is used for the circulation of water,  
whereby the apparatus is lowered so that the nozzles come  
under the water or by raising the covering (39) of the aerator  
and/or by lowering the rotation speed of the ~~motor~~ (11).  
15